

The Unwanted Daughter's Alpha King

My stomach sank at the sight of Grace. She was who I won doing this for, but would she understand my reasons? Would she explain? I needed to know what Allison was up to. Her timing was far too coincidental to not mean anything.

"This is what you are leaving me for?" Allison bit back angrily as she looked Grace up and down several

"I already left you several years ago" I retorted bitterly.

"She's a mouse!" Allison argued.

indeed. "She's pale as a vampire, like on her hair in pale. She's fine. I'm lining you to that?! She's not even

"ENOUGH" I bellowed, "Stop insulting my mate, Allison. We've been over this already."

"I just don't understand why you would pick her over me?" Allison wailed.

corner of my

A flood of emotions filled my senses, from anger to jealousy, and I knew they weren't my emotions. I saw Grace out but I could feel her raging inside, and that made me angry. She had been bound twice, but if her feelings were strong enough, I was afraid they might break the bindings, and we would be in an even bigger mess,

"I pick her in every lifetime." I responded, grabbing her arm and pulling her out of the meeting room toward the front door. I was done with the games she was playing, and the torment **she** was inflicting on my mate. "We are done here."

"It's Alpha King **to** you!" I growled. "Now, I said you could stay in the pack, but we are done here."

Allison rolled her **eyes** and decided that she had lost this round **and** took her leave officially. I waited till she was out of my sight before turning back toward my mate and the others.

Crate's were crossed over her chest, and her face was a mask of indifference that I knew was a practiced form of protection.

"How could

could you have possibly agreed to let that bitch stay?" Sawyer said as he walked over and slapped the back of my head

"I am you Alpha King." I reminded him angrily.

"And you are my brother, get over it." Sawyer mered back...

I approached Grace, who turned away slightly.

"I'm sorry

for what the said to you, I told her, pulling her into **me** slightly, "But I had to let her stay."

"Why?" Sawyer demanded. "She's a lunatic who is only going to cause trouble"

"She is," I conceded, "But she's up to something, and I have to know what it is. I want to be able to keep an eye on things and the only real way to do that is to keep her close"

I rubbed Grace's as gently, but she didn't relax. She just **stood** there stiffly, not saying anything, which scared me a little bit.

"Aren't you worried about whatever she has planned? Lean asked.

them, but that didn't "I made it clear that she was not welcome here, and if she crossed lines, she wouldn't like what happened." I t agitation with me lessen. She just seemed to seetje silently, and I could feel her confusion and jealousy like it was my own.

"**Grace**, are you okay? 1 asked, turning her toward me.

She didn't say anything, all I got was a single nod.

"I don't believe you," I whispered in her ear. She didn't react to me at all, so I madlinked Sawyer. I knew if I suggested she go calm down somewhere, i would not be taken well. But if Sawyer could help, I could talk to Leon about what was going on and come up with solutions.

"Come on, Grace, let's go finish our walk." Sawyer suggested.

She nodded and pulled away from me, and I reluctantly let her go. As soon as since Sawyer came and got noe..

the **done** shit, I turned to Leon, knowing he would know what had happened”

“What does she know?”

“Sawyer told her everything he knows about Allison. She never reacted to any of it. He told her that she betrayed her family, and killed her own mate, and she said nothing. It’s quite concerning”

“She’s not not reacting,” I told him. “She’s just doing it internally, and I’m **afraid** she’ll break the binding that **keep** her from shifting.”

“Isn’t that what we want?” Leon questioned,

“Not like that.” I answered. “That would be traumatic, and an out-of-control shift. She could lose herself to the Lycan part of her.”

Leon nodded and ran a tired hand through his hair. “Then you should probably be with her. You’re her mate, you should be able to help her settle.”

I hadn't thought about that, so I immediately mindlinked Sawyer to find out where they were. He said that that she had asked for space and was in garden. He wasn't far from her in case she needed something, but he was **honoring** her request. I told him he could leave, and I made my way there without **another** moment's hesitation. I had no idea how to make it right to her, but I **also** knew I had to try.

She was sitting on the ground with her eyes closed as I approached.

"Go away, Sawyer."

She **said**, when she heard my footsteps.

"It's me, my love." I said gently, sitting down next to her.

She looked **at** me, but she didn't smile the **way** she usually did.

"Do you want to talk about it?" I asked her, after a few moments of silence.

"There's nothing to say." She whispered.

“I beg to differ, my love,” I responded. “Your emotions tell a different story

“She’s beautiful.” Grace **finally** confessed. “Absolutely stunning. I think you made a mistake in choosing me.

1. c. I can’t

even

compare to her.”

“**Gracie**, I didn’t marry and mark her because I didn’t want her. She’s the one who doesn’t compare to you. **No** one has ever compared to you. And no one can **ever** replace you. You are the only one I want.”

Grace’s feelings didn’t change though, it was like she didn’t believe me.

“You killed your **other** fiances who had interice motives.” She **said** after a long moment.

“I did, yes.” I answered uneasily, my heart beginning to **rate** a bit.

didn't tell

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Chapter 62

I looked at Rhys expectantly. He looked drained from the day, but I still felt I deserved an explanation. I was feeling a lot of things, some of which I wasn't sure were warranted, but I needed to know for myself.

"It's kind of complicated and long." He said after a moment.

"I have time." I answered dryly,

"You do." He replied with a hint of a smirk. "Okay. So, I killed my other fiancés because they had ulterior motives, and when I discovered them, a lot of times it was safer to just do it like that. Some tried to poison me and take over my throne, several slept with my twin, Caleb as a back up plan, some were just trying to gain power and weren't good at it, and a couple of them actually had plans to overthrow the whole kingdom. But Allison, she's not a good person, but she also didn't do any of those things. Her family arranged our meeting. They were seeking power, and her pack wasn't under my protection, nor was it an ally **of any** kind. She told me of her family's plans, ultimately betraying them, and helping me

reclaim their pack as a part of mine. That's why I let her live because she was honest with me."

"Okay." I **said** slowly, not satisfied with the information given to me.

"I know that might seem like a mistake," Rhys added quickly. "And maybe it was, but at the time, I couldn't justify killing her. She has become more and more obsessive with time, but heck then she stood by my side through everything, and I felt like it was a fair exchange."

That made some sense, kind of, but it didn't make **me** feel any better.

"Did you ever love her?" I asked hesitantly, not **sure** I wanted to know the answer.

The Alpha King surprised me by smiling at the question, and I felt confused till I heard the hint of laughter in his voice. "No, **Gracie**. No, I never loved her. She might love me, though I think her illusion of love is a bit twisted, but I have **never had** any feelings toward her romantically. And I will never reciprocate those feelings she has. She isn't the one I want."

"Then why is she here?" I asked,

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was barely above a whisper.

“That is something that I should have warned you **about**, and I’m really sorry. Everything **has** just happened so fast, and I just didn’t think about it.” He paused, pulling me **in** closer to him. “Every time I have brought someone home after her, she has shown up. Usually, she tries to intimidate them **and** let me **know** that she’s still around. And if her head, she’s the better option, no matter who they are. I have warned her that she is not to come near you, **Grace, and** that if she tries anything **again**, I will not be so lenient. You are the most important thing in the world to me, Grace. If she tries anything, there will be hell to pay for her,”

“Do you think that will actually keep her at bay?” I **asked**. She seemed **like** she really loved him, and if it **was me** on the outside, **I** don’t know what I wouldn’t do to prove my love. I **was** already struggling with that aspect, and I wasn’t even on the outside.

“Honestly?”

I nodded. Yes. I needed him to be honest with me. Not just now though, but always.

that i

“No” He answered, lifting me so I was sitting on his lap facing him. “I don’t think it will keep her at bay. I think she will disregard everything I have told her and probably make a mess of things. But then we will at least know what’s going on instead of being blind to whatever she ends up planning.”

I shrugged. I didn’t think his plan was going to go the **way** he was thinking it would, but I **wasn’t** going to be the one to tell him that.

“Until we know what’s going **on** with her, Grace, just promise me you’ll be careful, and let me know if you have any problems, **okay?**”

I nodded, but doubt had sort of settled in soul. Would he believe my word against hers if anything did happen? **Or** would I be in trouble and accused of lying? I felt overwhelmed by everything that was happening. A new mate who **had** an ex-fiancé, who may or may not be planning to kill me.

“**You** still feel like you’re in turmoil. The Alpha King **said** with a frown.

“I don’t know what to say.” I told him honestly.

“What are **you afraid of?**” He asked, his hand cupping my face, his thumb tracing my jaw line.

“That you’ll realize how pathetic I am and chose her” I answered honestly.

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He froze for a moment before saying. “Gracie, you are not pathetic. You are literally one of the strongest people I **have** ever met I have chosen you. We are always been destined for each other. That’s why **none** of my other relationships **have** ever worked out. I wasn’t meant for them. I was meant for you. And only you.”

The words sounded nice, but I wasn’t sure I believed them, even though I wanted to. I gave him a small smile as a ‘I’m trying to believe in us’ offering, even though I wasn’t exactly sure where I stood with everything.

“It’s going to be okay, Gracie.” He said **softly** as he rested his forehead on mine. “I promise.”

And

in that moment, I chose to believe in his promise **as we** sat there **on** the ground in the garden, just breathing each other in

After a few minutes of silence, Rhys phone buzzed, **and** he pulled it out of his pocket, and read whatever it said.

“Perfect.” He said aloud, but I don’t think he **was** talking to me as he texted whoever it was back.

then slid his phone back into his pocket and smiled at me.

He L

“Come on,” He said, nudging me with

is knee t

to get **up**

“Where are we going?” I asked **as** I brushed the dirt off me, then took the hand he was offering me.

“I found you a mentor, and we’re going to meet him.”

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Chapter 63

We walked in silence down a pathway I had never seen before. I mean that wasn't saying much because I had rarely left the packhouse other than to go to the clinic, but it made me a little uneasy, especially because I kept thinking that Allison was going to just jump out from behind a tree and try to kill me. Rhys didn't seem to be worried though. He

seemed quite the opposite in fact. I knew he seemed to consider the conversation we had been having to be over, but I still had so many questions and thoughts. I was just processing it all. But to him it seemed that we had reached an understanding, but I wasn't so sure we had. O

A little cottage came into view as followed the path around a curve. There were actually several houses I realized after a moment. Each seemed to have a large amount of space for themselves, and they were all fairly hidden by trees except for the first one that stuck out like a sore thumb, and it looked like it was starting to fall apart.

Rhys knocked on the door, and I just looked around. I didn't love that we were so deep in the woods at a stranger's house, especially because it was relatively shabby. I mean, I was sure Rhys knew whoever this was, but I didn't and that made me super anxious.

The door opened and a man who looked to be about middle age, appeared.

"Alpha King Rhys!" The man exclaimed joyfully. "It's good to see you, son. And this must be Grace. It's a pleasure to meet you dear. I'm Arlo. Please come in."

I let Rhys enter first, and he tugged me through the door with him. There was something about this place that I didn't like very much, but I couldn't put my finger on it. The house was just as chaotic inside as it was outside. Everywhere I turned all I saw was clutter and disorganization, but Arlo was giving me no reason to really think anything was wrong, so I pushed it away. I knew it was probably just because of the day I was having, making my anxiety skyrocket.

"Grace," Rhys called out, bringing my attention back to him and Arlo. "Arlo is one of the best tutors we have in the kingdom. He is knowledgeable on all fronts, and I trust him to keep you safe and teach you everything you want."

I nodded not knowing what to say. Arlo seemed nice enough, but I didn't love that I was just being passed off like I was a child.

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"I will help you to become the best Luna you can be," Arlo smiled at me, and gestured for me to sit at the table.

It was then that I realized he had it all set up, just for me, so I took a sit, hesitantly.

"Let's start with this," Arlo said as he handed me a book before taking a seat across from me. "I want to get a baseline of where you're at, so that we don't move too quickly or put you too in over your head. Does that make sense?"

I nodded, but the book was already over my head, I knew I couldn't read it if he asked.

"First, I want you to just tell me what words you know off of any page you chose." He told me. "Then we will pick some new practice words for you to focus on."

I nodded and began the process. Arlo wrote down everything I said. And then we picked several sight words that maybe second graders would have practiced

themselves. I practiced writing them, spelling them and saying them aloud. My pronunciations weren't always correct apparently because I didn't talk much before, so I needed to relearn some things I had once known.

My writing was clumsy, my reading was terrible, and my math was non-existent. We sat in long stretches of silence as I worked. Every now and again he made corrections, and Rhys sat in the corner on his phone, not saying anything.

"Okay, I have to take care of something," Rhys said as he stood abruptly, startling both me and Arlo. "I'll be back."

I nodded, but I felt myself begin to panic a bit. It wasn't that Rhys was being helpful, but I liked knowing he was close. I didn't want to be alone with anyone really on a normal basis, let alone with someone I had just met.

"It's okay," Arlo smiled at me as he got up and went into the kitchen. "I don't bite."

I smiled nervously, but I found it hard to focus now that Rhys wasn't here. I was slowing down tremendously in my work. I knew that probably wouldn't fly around here, and I didn't want to get in trouble.

"Here, Grace," Arlo smiled as he sat a mug down next to me. "I made tea to help you

relax. Tea always makes me feel better when I'm nervous.”

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I nodded, and muttered a thank you, but didn't touch it. I tried to focus on what I was supposed to be doing. I was practicing writing my sight words now. My handwriting was shaky at best, but I figured it didn't really matter. I knew I needed to do better if I was Rhys' mate. He would want a Luna who could work alongside him, not someone who relied on him for literally everything, which was how I felt right now.

“Okay, let me see.” Arlo said, and I jumped at the sound of his voice.

He was standing behind me and I hadn't even realized he had gotten up from his chair and moved. I felt my anxiety spike as I realized how close he was to me. He leaned over my shoulder to see my work, and I froze.

He is just trying to see my work I told myself, but I hated how close he was to me. I hated that I was alone with him. And I was pretty certain that I might hate Rhys for leaving me alone with this random stranger who was convinced he could teach me.

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I took a deep breath and leaned out of my chair as far as I could before eventually just getting up and putting a little space between us.

“Oh,” Arlo said in surprise when he looked up and realized I had moved. “I’m sorry, Grace. I wasn’t thinking about how close I was to you.”

He then took several steps back, which allowed me to retake my seat, even though I didn’t really want to. “That’s okay.” I mumbled.

He gave me a smile and gestured to my untouched tea. "I promise the tea's not poisoned," He laughed a little.

I tried to smile back, but my heart was racing. Kinsley had claimed the tea wasn't poisoned too, but it most definitely was. I had no way of knowing it was poisoned then, and no way of knowing it now. I'm sure it wasn't, but I wouldn't be drinking anything till Rhys came back, and even that was questionable.

Arlo moved to the other side of the table and retook his seat. He then reached across the table for my papers which I handed to him, careful not to touch him.

"Very good, Grace," He beamed after looking over my work. "These are nearly perfect. You must be very bright."

He handed my back my papers, and we moved on to the next subject which was math. Arlo said that we were only going to learn the basics for math, and I found it to be my hardest subject so far, but Arlo worked with me patiently till I understood the very basics.

"Let's practice some conversation, okay? Give your mind and hand a little break."
He said

after a while.

“Okay...” I said slowly, wondering what he really meant by that.

“So, Rhys was telling **me** that your wolf is bound, do you have any idea why?” He asked, looking at me curiously.

I really wished that Rhys hadn't left as I whispered, “No.” I really didn't want to talk about my bound wolf.

“Do you know how long you've been bound?” He asked, and I frowned wondering why I was getting the 3rd degree over my wolf that wasn't really a wolf.

“No.” I responded uneasily. I didn't know how he knew about my wolf or Lycan, but I didn't like it. I couldn't figure out why he would be asking about it. It's not like that was a normal conversation starter with others...

“It must be hard to be disconnected from yourself like that,” He sighed.

“I'm not sure,” I answered hesitantly, not sure I really wanted to get into the details with him about this. “I've never known anything else.”

“I'm sorry,” Arlo chuckled slightly at himself. “It's just that I really empathize with you, Grace. I remember what it was like when my wolf was bound, and it was terrible. I

wouldn't wish that on my worst enemy.”

“Your wolf was bound?” I asked in surprise.

“Oh yea,” Arlo sighed at the memory. “I used to have a bit of a drinking and gambling problem when I was younger, and I, in a moment of stupidity, bet my wolf. I didn't even

know you could bound someone's wolf like that, I thought it was an empty threat. But to my surprise, that was my punishment, and you could in fact 'lose' your wolf. For 3 years,

my wolf and I were disconnected. I tried to get my life together during that time, which

was not easy. However, that's when I met Alpha King Rhys and Beta Leon. They saved me

during a rogue attack and brought me back here. They were able to get my wolf unbound eventually, and I owe them everything. They saved my life in more ways than one.”

I nodded, feeling frozen. Rhys had unbound another wolf before me, and now he was my

tutor. There had to be a point to this... But I felt tricked or used or something. I didn't know what I felt exactly, but I didn't like it.

The front door swung open, and Rhys strolled through it as if he owned the place, and

that made me feel worse.

"How's it going, love?" He asked, but I just stared at him, not answering.

He frowned and turned to Arlo. "How'd she do, Arlo?"

"She did really well," Arlo smiled broadly. "We accomplished a lot today. She should practice every day, but she's further along than I expected and a very quick learner. Her

pronunciations will come the more she talks, and everything else will come with time.”

“That’s great!” Rhys said happily, turning back to me to gage my reaction.

“Can we go now?” I asked quietly fuming at the deceit I was feeling the more I thought about everything.

“Sure,” Rhys seemed confused by my demeanor, but didn’t comment. “Thanks, Arlo, for everything. We’ll see you soon.”

Arlo waved his goodbye as he walked us out, assuring us it was nothing, and only closing

the door once was we were back on the path to the packhouse.

“Did you take me to Arlo because he has been bound before too?” I asked when we were far enough away.

“Yea,” Rhys admitted easily. “His story is obviously different than yours, but I thought it

would be good for you to meet someone who has experienced something that you're going

through, He's a good guy, and I thought it might help you feel less alone. Did it help to

talk to him?"

"I didn't really appreciate you leaving me alone with him." I told him honestly, still feeling uneasy over the whole thing.

"I was outside the whole time, love," He answered, lowkey dismissing my concern. "He's a

good guy. Plus, I would know if anything inappropriate happened."

I felt my anger intensify. He was testing me? How fucking dare he... First the stupid girl shows up, and now he tried to set me up to see where my loyalties lied? It wasn't fair.

None of this was actually for me. It didn't matter what he said, he clearly didn't trust me. 'He would know if anything inappropriate happened.' Was he waiting for something inappropriate to happen? The thought made me **feel** icky inside. I might have passed his stupid test, but I was livid I was being tested in the first place.

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Chapter 65

"Why are you upset?" I asked Grace when I felt her emotions shift from nervous and

scared to angry.

I had known Arlo for a long time. He was a good guy, and I had known she would be safe with him. But somehow, she seemed to be twisting my good intentions into something

more.

“You were testing me,” She seethed, and I was taken aback by her angry tone.

“What?”

“You were freaking testing me.” She said again, shooting a glare my way. “You would

know if anything inappropriate happened, blah blah blah. It didn’t matter that you knew I

was uncomfortable and didn’t want to be there in the first place and then you freaking

left me. I thought you weren’t supposed to do that crap to your mate.”

“Whoa, whoa, whoa,” I grabbed her arm gently, stopping her from walking any farther. “There was no test. I was not testing you. I just wanted you to meet someone who could

understand what you’re going through but also teach you what you need. I would love to

personally teach you everything. I would love to be the one to experience your every new experience, but Grace, I'm the Alpha King. You know this. I have a lot of responsibilities. People who are relying on me. And I'm also trying to search for your old pack. So, I can't be the one who teaches you. I just don't have the time, and when we have time together,

I'd rather us be able to enjoy it instead of trying to cram lessons into it."

She looked unconvinced, so I repeated myself. "There was no test. I knew you were safe."

She rolled her eyes, and pulled away from me, and once again I worried that her agitation would cause an uncontrolled shift, breaking the binds holding her.

"Gracie," I said gently, pulling her back to me. "I know you don't believe me, but I have no

reason to test you. I know today has been a lot. And you don't really have any good

reason to believe me, but I'm begging you to please understand that I just want what's best for you."

She softened a little with that, but she was clearly still on edge, so I ran my hands soothingly along her back.

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“Why are you worried then?” She asked hesitantly.

“Well,” I thought about lying, but then decided that could only end badly for me. “Your powers might be quite strong, and I know you have a lot of heightened emotions right now, and I’m worried that you might lose control of them and have an uncontrolled shift that breaks through the binds holding you. I know we want to break the binds, but an uncontrolled shift could be really dangerous for both you and anyone around you.”

Her face fell, and I knew I had scared her a little. “Oh.” was all she said.

“I’m not saying it will happen, love. I just think it’s something we need to be aware of as a possibility.” I rubbed small circles into her back, and she seemed to deflate, all the fight she was feeling leaving her, but I wasn’t sure it was any better. I didn’t like the feeling of defeat that was coming from her now or the pure anxiety.

“It’s going to be okay, Gracie,” I said gently. She blinked quickly, and I realized she was trying not to cry. “We are going to get through this, together.”

She didn’t say anything, but I knew she was trying her best.

“Come on,” I told her gently, pulling her slightly up the path again. “It’s getting late. How about I have dinner brought up to our room, and you then you take a nice long bath to help calm your nerves?”

She nodded, and I wrapped my arm around her as tightly as I could. She was mine. And these feelings of inner turmoil she was feeling were my fault in every way. I just hoped I

would be able to fix it.

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Dinner was in full swing when we entered the pack house. I always loved the chaos of this time a day. It was always nice to see families and friends eating a meal together at the end of a long day. However, Gracie just tucked herself further into me as I walked to the line to grab us two plates. I knew she felt like she was an intruder or imposter in this pack, but I would work every day to change her perception of herself. She was their Luna, and they would love her.

“Hi Grace!” Alana exclaimed happily when she saw us.

Grace smiled at her and actually moved slightly from my side to my surprise.

“Do you guys want to have dinner with me and my friends?” Alana asked a little uncertainly.

I could feel Grace’s desire for it, but also her hesitation because we had made ‘plans’. “I

actually have some work to do, but Grace, I think wants to?”

Grace nodded and tried to pull away from me, but I squeezed her back, and kissed her

cheek before letting her go, her face heating as she walked away with her friend.

I watched her go before grabbing a plate and heading up to my office. It wasn't a lie; I really did have work to be doing.

I opened my office door and to my surprise, Allison was sitting in my chair, clearly

waiting for me.

"How did you get in here?" I demanded angrily.

"Tsk, tsk, Rhys, that is not how to greet an old friend." She smiled snidely. She once again was wearing the most revealing clothes as if I would be so easily enticed. "I just came to ask you to join me for dinner tonight?"

"No. I have more important things to be doing right now, Allison."

“Your new girl seems too busy for you,” She gestured to the dinner plate I was carrying. “She can’t even eat with her Alpha.”

“Get out, Allison.” I growled slightly. “You are not supposed to be in here, nor are you

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supposed to be talking about my mate like you have any idea what’s going on between us. So get lost.”

“Oh come on, Rhys, I would be a far better partner than that thing,” She tried, and I

decided I didn’t have to deal with this.

“Leon, come get Allison out of my office and make sure she doesn’t take anything with her.” I mindlinked my beta.

py that.” He answered.

Wait!” Allison called out as I turned away from her. “Don’t go! Let me remind you of how

good we are together!”

“No.” I answered, but I didn’t stop. We weren’t good together. We were nothing at all, and the sooner or later she would need to get that through her head.

I made my way all the way up to my floor and ate in my small office as I did some work. But my mind couldn’t focus very well, and I had the strongest desire to go find Grace. So,

after about a half an hour of wasted time, I was on a hunt to find my mate.

I scanned the dining room, but there was no sign of Alana or the usual crew she sat with. However, my wolf told me he could sense her near and led me outside to the gardens and

then I saw her.

She was laying on her back next to Sawyer watching the stars as they chatted, and my

heart fluttered as I watched her without her knowing in the simplicity of this moment.

This is what I wanted our forever to look like.

Chapter Comments

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“Hi,” I said as I sat on the ground next to them.

“Rhys,” Grace smiled when she saw me.

“What are you guys doing?” I asked, not sure I understood exactly what they were doing.

“Just watching the stars,” Grace answered with a bit of awe in her voice. “They’re so beautiful tonight.”

I smiled at her, pulling her into me so she was laying on my arm.

“Did you have fun at dinner?” I asked.

“I did.” She answered with a smile. “I met some new people, and I was glad that both Alana and Sawyer were there because that made it less scary.”

“I’m glad, my love.” I told her, running my hand through her hair. I loved how long it was and how she never stopped me from touching it.

“Rhys?” Sawyer seemed hesitant as he spoke.

“Yes?”

“I got a call from Caleb today.” Sawyer said, and I could tell he was nervous to tell me. “He just wanted to let us know he was safe.”

I sighed. I didn't want to think about my other brother. A part of me felt bad for the way everything had gone down, but the other part of me just wished he would have heeded my

warnings.

"I'm glad to hear it." I said carefully. "You know I didn't want to do it, Sawyer, but I have

my reasons for it..."

"I know." Sawyer answered, but there was a sadness in his voice that made me feel for him. "I just miss him"

"Me too." I responded honestly.

We laid there in silence for a while. I knew that Grace was still upset over some of the

things that had happened today, but we didn't talk about it. There was no need to ruin such a good moment.

As we laid there, a sweet aroma began fill my senses, making my wolf crazy. Grace moved closer, curling her body up into me completely. I looked down at her and noticed her cheeks were flushed, and then I made eye contact with Sawyer whose pupils were slightly dilated as he looked at me with wild eyes.

"She's in the heat," Sawyer mindlinked me, standing up and bolting into the kitchen.

"What's wrong? Where is he going?" Grace looked up in confusion.

"How are you feeling?" I asked ignoring her question as she squirmed against me slightly.

"I don't know." She answered hesitantly. "I feel kinda like hot and uncomfy."

"Come on," I got up and lifted her into my arms. "Let's go to our room. I think your starting your heat."

She whimpered in my arms, and I could feel both her nerves and her desire rolling off of her in waves. I prayed to the Moon Goddess that nobody would be in our path as I all but ran to our room. I didn't need unmated males swarming my girl.

"It's okay." I soothed as I threw open the door to her room. "I'm going to take care of you."

"But-" She started but was cut off by the cramps that were starting.

"Shhh let me help you," I laid her on the bed and pulled her hair out of her face. "I'm your

mate.

"Please, Rhys," She pleaded.

I stripped my shirt off as she impatiently ripped at her own, yanking it over her head and then she kicked off her shoes. I then helped her with her pants, pulling them down. I admired her beautiful body that laid naked in front of me.

"You are gorgeous," I muttered as I leaned in to kiss her lips.

She met my kiss with a hunger I wasn't quite prepared for. She was being bold, and I couldn't say that I didn't like it. I pulled away, capturing her neck with my mouth, right

where my mark was.

"Ohhh," she moaned, arching her body up to meet mine. I then slipped one of my hands lower and slipped two fingers into her with ease and began thrusting them. She was already so wet, so ready for me. She was mine, and that would never change. Fate made her for me.

She was already on the edge of her first orgasm as I moved to show her breasts some attention. I captured her nipples in my mouth, and her hands raked through my hair as her body shuttered with her first orgasm. But we were just getting started.

I gave her only a moment to relax and rest before starting up again. My tongue circled her clit. Her body was so sensitive as I pulled my hand out, pushed her thighs apart and lined my dick up at her entrance. She cried out in wanting when I took too long, again, arching her body to give me better access and in a way to touch more. Her hands then ran up my side, sending shivers through my soul and I began to rock my hips into her, and she started to match my rhythm.

"Oh Rhys," She cried out, her eyes closed as I captured her tits with my mouth again.

“Grace,” I groaned as I felt myself growing close to an orgasm. “Cum for me my Grace.”

She moaned telling me she was also close.

“Who do you belong to?” I asked her,

“You.” She panted, trying to pull her body away, but I held her firmly in place.

“Who is your mate?” I taunted again, slowing my pace a bit causing her to cry out again.

“It’s you, Rhys!” She cried, rocking her hips, trying to get me to speed up again.

I smirked and picked up my pace again causing her to squirm again.

“And who’s name are you going to scream as you cum?” I asked because last time she

hadn't.

“YOU!”

I engulfed her boob again, as her thighs tightened against mine. “Oh goddess!” She

whined, and I knew I was making her feel good.

I could feel her walls start to clench around me, and all it took was two more thrusts and

we were both over the edge, and she was screaming my name.

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The Unwanted Daughter's Alpha King

Chapter 68

I had never been with a female during the heat before, so I hadn't really known what exactly to expect. But for 3 days, Grace's body craved all things sexual. She had been ravenous and bold, taking what she wanted at times.

For three days, we didn't leave our room. Leon brought all our meals to the door, and sat them out there for whenever, we needed to refuel. Sawyer stayed on another level of the house, so he wouldn't be tempted by the scent of her heat. And we had only had brief moments of peace.

Grace's temperature was starting to go down as she tiredly kissed up and down my body, making me feel blissful. Her lips met mine for only a couple of moments, and it lacked the hunger she had had before. She then laid her head back on her pillow, and it didn't take long for her to fall asleep.

It had been three days of heaven. Grace had started being bolder by day two, taking lead sometimes, something I had not been expecting. I could still taste her lips on mine. But I was exhausted. I had asked Leon over the mindlink if he was always this exhausted when his wife's heat finishes, and he just laughed at me, and said 'congrats on becoming a real

man'.

Even though he teased me, Leon and Sawyer were both able to help manage pack things while I was incapacitated. I also made sure they let Arlo know that we would have to pause Grace's tutoring sessions. When I wasn't engaged in sexual activity, I was sleeping or eating, and I usually had to make a choice between the two, there was never quite enough time for both.

Sensing Grace would be asleep for quite a while due to her own exhaustion, I made my way downstairs to my office. I was always grateful for Leon and Sawyer for being able to pick up the slack, I hated being away from my duties. It always felt like I was letting down my people, **even** if that wasn't true.

I started with my emails and then made my way to the stacks of paperwork on my desk. Even with Leon and Sawyer helping, there was so much that hadn't gotten done. Mostly things about pack alliances that they would need my decisions on.

"Hey," Leon popped his head into my office, a look of surprise on his **face**. "I didn't know you were back."

"Grace is sleeping," I told him. "It seems like she's back to normal. I mean this is the longest she's slept."

“Good, good,” Leon said absently, and I noticed the worry on his face. “So, we have a little bit of a situation going on.”

“What’s wrong?” I asked. My mind immediately jumped to the Red Blood pack, maybe something had happened on that front. Or what if something happened to our prisoner, Ethan? My mind raced through every possibility.

“We have a visitor.” He said allusively.

I frowned. “A visitor that’s more of a problem than Allison?” I asked.

“Do you remember when we went to meet with the Witch, Sandra, at that diner?”
He

asked.

“I do...” I answered slowly, not liking where this was going. “Why?”

“She has returned. She’s in my office right now.” Leon said nervously.

“When did she get here?” I asked through gritted teeth.

“About an hour ago,” He said, and I knew he was nervous to tell me. “I thought you were

still with Grace, and I didn’t want to bother you, but she told me you were done, which is

why I came to find you.”

“She told you it was over?”

“Yes”

“God damn,” I muttered under my breath before saying, “Well okay, lead the way.”

I followed Leon to his office, just a couple doors down, and I saw the witch sitting in a chair that was far too big for her. She still looked young, but not quite as young as she

had the last time, but definitely still looked like a child.

“Sandra,” I greeted her coolly. “What brings you here?”

She ran her hand through her hair, but she looked far less confident than she had the last

time we met.

“I have important information for you.” She said simply, but she was lacking the confidence from before. She almost seemed afraid.

“What kind of important information?” I asked, narrowing my eyes at her as I took Leon’s

usual chair.

“I can unbind the girl you asked me about before. I have a way to break the restraints.” She said, but her voice shook as she said those words, and I felt like I was being played for

a fool.

I growled angrily. “Last time I saw you, you told me you couldn’t help me, and then you left abruptly, disappearing without a trace.” I snapped at her.

Sandra flinch at my words and looked frantic and serious all at once, her eyes darting

around the room.

“You have no idea, Alpha King Rhys, the gravity of this situation.” She pleaded with a little bit of bite in her voice now. “Things are so much more complicated than they seem.”

“Are you in trouble?” Leon asked her. Neither of us seemed to be able to get a good read on what was going on which made me a little anxious. The little witch seemed really on edge and we both were wondering if we should be too.

“I will be when I tell you what I need to.” She answered, her eyes flickering back and forth

between Leon and I now.

“Well then let’s hear it.” I snapped at her, ready to get this over with. I didn’t know what she was going to say, but I knew I would have to try and keep my wolf in check.

“I can help unbind her...” The witch said before taking a deep breath and adding, “Because I’m the one who did it in the first place.”

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The Unwanted Daughter's Alpha King

The Unwanted Daughter's Alpha King

Chapter 69

“What do you mean you’re the one who did this?” I roared. How dare she come into my home and just drop such a bombshell?!

The girl flinched and took a step back. She was clearly frightened as she raised her chin in defiance of my aura. She may be a witch, but my aura most definitely still affected her as

she tried not to cower.

“Please,” She asked, her voice shaking. “You don’t understand...”

“You could have given us answers at the diner,” Leon interrupted, his own voice steady, even though I knew he could feel my anger. “What changed? Why now?”

“Because everything has changed.” The witch answered in exasperation. “I do not know

the full story, but I know enough to change how you are looking at it. The information I

share now is imperative for the future.”

“How do I know you are not lying?” I seethed.

“I cannot prove it. The only thing I can do is tell you what I know. What you chose to

believe or not to believe is not up to me, but I beg you to hear me now.”

“I’m listening.” I said through gritted teeth, leaning against Leon’s desk. If I wanted any

truth, I had to be careful, and that was infuriating when it came to Grace.

“The girl... I didn’t know she was who you were talking about when I heard the rumors of

what you were looking for. Grace has been an unusual case since her birth. I was told that

she shifted on the day of her birth-”

“But that’s impossible.” I interrupted, sneaking a look at Leon who was nodding his head in agreement with me. “Shifting that early, that young, it’s not possible. A baby can’t consciously choose that-”

“Nobody said she ‘chose’ to shift, Alpha King Rhys,” The witch stated coldly. “I probably wouldn’t have believed it either, but I was called upon shortly after her birth to bind her for the first time.”

“First time?” Leon interrupted again. “Also, aren’t you too young to have been there when Grace was a child?”

5:18 pm G

“Will you let me tell my story?!” The witch snapped in irritation. “And I am much older than I appear. I can change my appearance at will, and this is my will.”

“To look like a 13-year-old girl?” Leon frowned.

“That’s it! If you don’t want to hear what I have to say or have my help, then I will just

simply see myself out!”

“No.” I grabbed the small witch’s arm as she tried to scurry from the room. “You will tell your story, and we will ask questions as needed. Now, continue.”

The small witch had courage... I had to give her that as she glared angrily at me before finally continuing, “**As** I was saying, I wouldn’t have believed it either, but

shortly after her birth, Louanne, the Alpha's mistress found me and asked for her to bound. At first, I refused. I am not in the habit of binding young children. I tried to argue that whatever they thought they saw, it was not worth changing the course of the baby's life. But then she shifted for me, the small baby that couldn't even hold her head up yet, shifted right before my eyes. I wouldn't have believed it if I didn't see it for myself." Sandra paused, taking a deep breath. "then Louanne made a very convincing argument that the girl was a danger to herself and everyone around her if she was going to shift uncontrollably, and I

agreed."

"But Grace would never hurt anyone." I argued.

"Not purposefully, but she couldn't control her shifts. There was no way. I thought it would be safer for everyone for her to be bound. If I knew what I know now, I'm not sure I would have done it, but if I hadn't done it, then someone else would have. I mean, someone else did eventually." She muttered the last part more to herself than to Leon and I, but she forgot that she was in a room of werewolves.

"What do you mean by that?" I demanded, hating how allusive she was being while also being blunt.

"I mean,

the girl has been bound a total of 3 times, at least that's how many I am aware of. I am responsible for 2 of the bindings. The girl held immense power, and one

binding was not enough to hold her. She almost immediately started to break out of her first one, and I had to work quickly to contain her with a second one. Then when she was older, I got a call again, asking to redo my bindings. Louanne had long been dead, and I never did find out who was asking, but the too young excuse wasn't a factor anymore, and I saw no reason to bind her. That was when I realized they were not trying to help this young lady

but instead there was something much more sinister going on. I am not that kind of witch who purposefully does things to harm others, but I know some who are, and once I refused, I'm sure they found someone who would do it and not ask questions."

"Three times?" I whispered in shock.

"At least." Sandra answered with a nod.

"Why?" I asked.

"Don't you feel it, Alpha Rhys? That girl has immense power. Even with her wolf bound, I can sense her power from here. And you can too, she's clearly affecting you, my king. Now, I am going to prepare what I need to, so we can complete this as soon as possible."

"I don't feel anything affecting me," I frowned, wondering if I had misread everything. I didn't think Grace was tricking me with her power...

“That girl you have is special,” Sandra said with confidence now that my aura wasn’t so suffocating to her as she stood in the doorway ready to disappear again. “She was not made for you, Alpha King Rhys. You were destined for her, drawn to her by only her faint aura that is seeping through the binds. Do not mistake who was made for who.”

And then just as suddenly as she arrived, she was gone.

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The Unwanted Daughter's Alpha King

Chapter 70

I woke up feeling exhausted. A glance at my window and I realized that I had slept much longer than I usually did. The sun was completely up, it had to be close to noon. I stretched my body, but to my surprise, the spot next to me was empty. I didn't know if I was relieved or disappointed that he wasn't there this time when I woke up. He had been there every time during the last few days, but they had been wild and freeing. Now, I felt myself again, and I couldn't help but feel slightly embarrassed for what had happened

t few days. I had never done anything like that before, and my body was

ing hurt. I laid in bed for a while before deciding a shower might make me feel er. I got out of bed slowly as my muscles screamed in protest. Muscles I didn't even know I had hurt. I couldn't help but wonder if Rhys was here would he kiss the pain away or if I was supposed to be grateful that I felt like this.

I turned the water on, and let it warm up as I undressed myself bit by bit, my limbs weighing me down heavily. I stepped under the water and let it hit me for a few minutes. I felt my body relax with every minute that passed.

“Grace?” I looked around as I tried to figure out if I was imagining Rhys' voice or if he

was actually calling me.

“Grace?” He called out again a little more frantically and louder as he opened the

bathroom door.

“Here.” I responded, realizing he was in fact real.

He sighed in relief and immediately began undressing before opening the glass and sliding in behind me.

“Was that necessary?” I asked but couldn’t help but lean into his touch.

“Absolutely,” He answered, his voice husky. “Have you washed up yet?”

“No.” I breathed as his fingers traced my sides.

“Then it would be my honor,” He whispered in my ear, grabbing the shampoo from the

shelf.

“You don’t have to.” I told him.

“Shut up and let me take care of you.” He growled softly.

I leaned into his touch, letting his fingers work their magic as he massaged my scalp, and my face flushed at the memories from the last couple days.

“What’s wrong?” Rhys asked, stopping his massage.

“Nothing.” I squeaked out.

“You have nothing to be embarrassed about, Gracie,” He breathed in my ear. “You are beautiful, and I had a great time.“.

I smiled as I leaned my head back under the water to rinse the shampoo, and he began to soap up my body. I couldn’t ignore the tingles his gentle touch sent through my body. There was nothing super sexual about it, but I found it heavenly just the same.

When he finally finished helping me, he turned the water off and grabbed my towel, wrapping me up in it before wrapping one around his waist and picking me up and placing me on the counter.

“How are you feeling, Gracie?” He asked gently as he stared at me intensely.

“I’m okay.” I told him. “I feel better now, but still a little sore.”

He nodded and caressed my face for a moment before pecking my lips and disappearing to the other room, I assumed for clothes.

I wasn’t sure if I was supposed to follow him or not, but before I could even make a decision, he was back, clothes for both of us in hand. I hopped down off the counter, and

we dressed silently.

“Do you remember your childhood, Grace?” He asked after a while.

I frowned. That was random...

“No, not really.” I told him honestly. “I remember bits and pieces, but most of it feels like a blur. Even my clearest memories aren’t that clear. I just really didn’t have a memorable childhood, I guess.”

“Hmm. I have to go see Ethan, would you like to join me?” Rhys asked as he took the brush from my hand and began to gently comb through my hair.

I froze. Did I want to see Ethan? Not really. I didn't have a strong desire to see him. I didn't know what to think when it came to him. All I felt was confused. But the way Rhys was looking at me in the mirror told me he wanted my answer to be yes, so yes it would have to be. I mean, after all he had catered to my needs for the last few days, I could do

this for him.

I nodded, and Rhys reached out his hand and I took it graciously as we began our journey to the dungeons. The dungeons here, at least the ones I had seen were much nicer than the ones in Blood Moon pack. Each cell tended to have the necessities and were clean. They also weren't quite as cold as the ones I was used to, but I still didn't want to spend any more time than I had to down there.

Ethan was asleep when we got there. For a moment I just stared at him. He did look vaguely familiar, but what were the odds we were really twins? What were the odds that both Rhys and I were both had a twin and yet we were made for each other? They couldn't possibly be very high...

“Rise and shine,” Rhys sneered as he rattled the cell bars as he entered, pulling me in behind him as a guard rushed to bring us each a chair.

I did have to admit, Ethan looked healthier now. I was glad Rhys was keeping his promise to me that he wasn't hurting him.

"To what do I owe this pleasure?" Ethan asked sleepily, but as soon as his eyes met mine, he sat up, immediately more alert.

"I have more questions." Rhys grumbled as we sat.

"Okay."

"What do you know about witches?" Rhys questioned; his voice carefully controlled.

"Witches?" Ethan frowned.

"Yes, witches."

"I know they exist, but not much more than that. I've never really interacted with witches.

In fact, I'm not sure I've ever met one."

I also frowned. Witches? What did they have to do with anything?

"Do you know if any ever interacted with Grace?" Rhys pressed.

Interacted with me? I didn't know any witches... What was Rhys getting on about and what did it have to do with me???

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